

HCS SS SCS SB 448 -- CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

SPONSOR: Rupp (Schoeller)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Children and Families by a vote of 12 to 0.

This substitute prohibits any child care facility which is exempt from licensure from asserting to any parent or guardian of children in its care that the facility is licensed, when the facility is in fact not licensed. Any person who violates this provision a second or subsequent time will be guilty of a class A misdemeanor and must be assessed a fine of \$200 per day up to a maximum of \$10,000.

Sam Pratt's Law is established which allows any court in a case involving the abuse, neglect, or death of a child to impose as a condition of release of the defendant that he or she be prohibited from providing child care services for compensation pending final disposition of the case. The court must notify the departments of Health and Senior Services and Social Services when it makes a determination as well as the final disposition of the case.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill is needed to protect Missouri's children and is identical to HCS#2 HB 1323 regarding Sam Pratt's law. The maximum fine is enhanced to \$10,000 instead of the current \$200.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Rupp; and Child Care Aware of Missouri.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that there has been a historic tension over this topic for over 30 years.

Testifying on the bill was Missouri Family Network.